

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-14 and 16-34 are pending. By this Response claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 14, 17, 23, 25 and 26 are amended. Reconsideration and allowance based on the above amendments and following comments are respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3, 5-14, 16-24 and 26-34 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Cheever, et al. (US 6,275,882) and claims 4 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Cheever in view of Fellegara, et al. (US 5,845,166). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Each of independent claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 14, 17, 23, 25 and 26 have been amended to recite the cradle being connected to an external apparatus via a detachable communication cable. This feature is not taught by Cheever and Fellegara. Cheever discloses a computer system 100 that includes a hot docking system integrated with the computer system. The hot docking system is not separate from the computer system and is not connected to the computer system 100 via detachable communication cable. In contrast, in embodiments of the present invention, a cradle is connectable to an external apparatus such as a PC via a detachable communication cable. When a digital camera is mounted on the cradle, the digital camera and the external apparatus are connected to perform two-way communication through the detachable cable.

Fellegara teaches a camera and is provided to teach features of a camera. Fellegara does not teach any type of docking system, specifically a cradle connected to an external apparatus via a detachable communication cable.

Thus, Cheever and Fellegara fail to teach at least a cradle having a first communication terminal through which an external apparatus capable of two-way communication is connectable

via a detachable communication cable so that the digital camera performs tow-way communication with the external apparatus, as recited in claims 1, 4, 5 and 8. Also Cheever and Fellegara fail to teach or suggest at least a first communication terminal which is connected to the external apparatus via a detachable communication cable, as recited in claims 14, 17, 23, 25 and 26.

Other features specific to certain claims not taught by Cheever and Fellegara are argued separately below.

Claims 5 and 26

With respect to claims 5 and 26, the Office Action alleges that Cheevers docking system which is incorporated in computer system 100 teaches the claimed digital camera comprising a device which turns a camera power supply on and off according to an operation of the power supply switch of the cradle, as recited in claims 1 and 26. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

First, applicant notes that each of claims 1 and 26 refer to the camera as including the device for turning the power supply on and off according to the power supply switch of the cradle. The Office Action refers to the computer system 100 which is represented as the cradle to disclose this feature. Applicant notes that nowhere does Cheever teach a device for controlling the power supply based on that of the cradle which is provided within the camera itself.

Second, the hot docking system of Cheever allows for a camera which has been turned off to utilize the power of the computer system to transfer data from the camera to the computer. There is no teaching within Cheever of turning a power supply on and off in the digital camera

according to the operation of the power supply switch in the cradle. Cheever's computer system merely provides power to the data transfer sections of the camera in order to obtain the data but does not turn the camera on or control the power operation of the camera. In any event, this feature is not taught as being part of the camera itself.

Therefore, applicant respectfully submits that Cheever fails to teach, *inter alia*, a device which turns the camera power supply on and off according to an operation of the power supply switch provided at the cradle, as recited in claims 5 and 26. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 5 and 26 are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 23

The Office Action alleges that Cheever teaches the claimed "a detection device that automatically changes an operation mode camera when the camera is mounted in the cradle and even communication with the external apparatus," as recited in claims 1 and 23. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

The Office Action alleges that the CPU computer as disclosed in column 3, lines 1-37 teaches the claimed detection device which changes the operation mode of the camera. Applicant respectfully submits that nowhere in Cheever does it teach or suggest changing an operation mode of the camera by the computer system. Column 3, lines 1-37 teaches standards for interfacing between the camera and computer system and detection of the camera by the computer system. However, there is no teaching of changing an operation mode of the camera. Further, claims 1 and 23 each recite that the detection device is provided within the camera itself. The Office Action refers to the computer system and not the camera to provide teachings of the

claimed detection device. Nowhere in Cheever does it teach a detection device for automatically changing the operation mode within the digital camera.

Therefore, applicant respectfully submits that Cheever fails to teach or suggest, *inter alia*, a digital camera comprising a detection device that automatically changes an operation mode of a camera to communicate with the external apparatus, as recited in claims 1 and 23. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection with respect to claims 1 and 23 are respectfully requested.

Claim 8

The Office Action alleges that Cheever teaches a feature of “a power input terminal which is connected to a power output terminal provided at the cradle when the digital camera is mounted on the cradle, DC power being outputted through the power output terminal and a charging device which charges a battery in the digital camera by the DC power inputted through the power input terminal when the computer power supply is turned off, the charging device prohibiting charging of the battery when the camera power supply is turned on, as recited in claim 8. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Cheever teaches at column 4, lines 29-36 that the camera may use power from the computer system to recharge its battery. The Office Action alleges that this statement in Cheever inherently describes turning off power of the camera and prohibiting charging when the camera power supply is turned on. Applicant respectfully submits that Cheever is silent on how charging actually occurs. The Office Action can't assume facts not present in the application. It is not necessarily required that a device must have its power shut down to recharge. Thus, the

Office Action can't assume facts related to the particular charging abilities of the recharging operation taught in Cheever. Cheever merely teaches that the camera device can use the power from the computer system to recharge the battery. It does not teach or suggest anything about the digital camera including a charging device which allows charging when the camera power supply is turned off and prohibits charging when the camera power supply is turned on.

Therefore, applicant respectfully submits that Cheever fails to teach the above noted feature of independent claim 8. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection with respect to claim 8 is respectfully requested.

Claim 14

Claim 14 recites a cradle which comprises a power supply switch which turns on and off a power supply of the digital camera. The Office alleges that the hot docking interface between the computer system 100 and camera provides the claimed switching on and off of the power supply of the camera. Applicant respectfully submits that the hot docking system of Cheever merely teaches a connection between a camera and a computer system from which the computers power is used to transmit data. Column 2, lines 54-57 of Cheever state "the multimedia device 104 may use power provided from the computer system 100 (or alternatively another multimedia device) to communicate the data." Nowhere does Cheever teach or suggest using the computer system to turn and off the power supply of the digital camera. The camera itself is never fully turned on merely power necessary to obtain the data is supplied.

Therefore, applicant respectfully submits that Cheever fails to teach the above noted feature of independent claim 14. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 17

The Office Action alleges that Cheever teaches the feature of “a display input terminal which is connected to a display output terminal provided at the digital camera when the digital camera is mounted on the digital camera mounting section, a display signal being outputted through the display output terminal and a display device which displays at least one of a communication state between the digital camera and the external apparatus and an on/off state of the camera power supply according to the display signal inputted through the display input terminal, as recited in claim 7. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Cheever teaches a computer system having a status indicator 112 which indicates a data error, a data completion and a data transmission status. There is no other indication or status provided on the indicator display. Cheever does not teach at least an on/off state of the camera power supply. Further, applicant notes that claim 17 recites a display signal for providing the data to the display. Nowhere does Cheever teach or suggest utilizing a display signal as recited in independent claim 17.

Therefore, applicant respectfully submits that Cheever fails to teach each and every feature of independent claim 17 as required. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 4 and 25

Each of claims 4 and 25 recite a digital camera which determines if communication between the digital camera and the external apparatus is impossible or does not occur when the detection device detects the digital camera on the cradle and displays a warning when this happens. In Cheever, an indicator provides a display which indicates data error, data completion and data transmission states. Cheever does not teach warning that a connection does not occur or is impossible between the camera and the external apparatus. Cheever's indications are used once connection has been performed between the camera and the computer system and data begins to transfer. Further, this is accomplished by the computer system 100 in Cheever and not by the camera as recited in independent claims 4 and 25. Further, Fellegara teaches a display used on a camera which is able to display information about the camera's features and image data acquired. Fellegara does not teach or suggest displaying data concerning communication between the camera and a cradle. In fact, Fellegara teaches directly connecting the camera to a computer via a cable not via a cradle. See Fig. 19 and columns 19-20.

Therefore, the combination of Cheever and Fellegara fail to teach and every feature of independent claims 4 and 25 as required. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

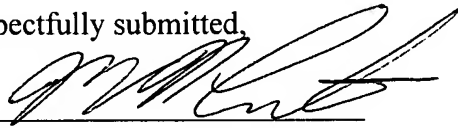
For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 3-14 and 16-34 are distinguishable over the cited art. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact applicant's representative at the telephone number of the undersigned below in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: July 17, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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